

WHO ARE WE?

*We are a welcoming, friendly and enthusiastic bunch of Christians, from all walks of life.

*We are a church for all ages.

*We would describe ourselves as low church Anglicans and as Open Evangelical.

*We have a strong commitment to Bible based teaching encompassing different styles of worship.

*We are an openhearted and prayerful fellowship enriched by shared ministry and outreach to the local community and beyond.

Our Vision is: TO KNOW JESUS AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN

We will aim to do this by:

*Loving one another and our community

*Listening to and learning from the Bible's teaching

*Putting our faith into action

*Working with our fellow Christians in other churches

Vicar

The vicar is responsible for leading worship and engaging in pastoral care, mission and ministry in the parish area and in the wider community alongside other colleagues in the North Lakes Mission Community and Churches Together in Keswick (CTiK). The Crosthwaite parish area includes approximately one-third of the population of Keswick itself, plus the communities at Portinscale, Applethwaite and Millbeck. The vicar is a governor at the local C of E Primary School, works with Keswick School (secondary) and is a Trustee of the Keswick Community Emergency Recovery Partnership.

People

The vicar is supported by a Lay Reader, a Commissioned Lay Preacher, two associate ministers and three active all age worship teams. There are 16 members of the Parochial Church Council (including three churchwardens) who currently meet once a month. A Standing Committee supports the PCC, along with a Finance Committee and a Roof Appeal and Buildings Committee (which has been advising on major building projects). A Parish Administrator supports the work of the vicar and wider church. Members of the congregation contribute regularly to services.

Our Goals

- To be a Church of All Ages
- To be a Welcoming Church
- To be an Outreach Church

Worship

We are pleased to accommodate a variety of worship styles – modern, traditional and online - from all age worship to Book of Common Prayer. Congregation members are actively involved in assisting with welcome and in worship. Music is of a high standard and is open to and encourages new songs. We all agree that the goal of our music is the worship and service of God. *I will sing with my spirit, but I will sing also with my mind.* (1 Corinthians 14.15)

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

There is an activity space within the church for children to use during worship which is well equipped with books and art and craft resources.

A space within the vestry is available for toddlers and babies.

CHURCH GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS

Crosthwaite church has a number of active groups covering a wide spectrum of activities.

Choir

There is a dedicated choir who meet weekly for practices and who enrich the Sunday mornings and on special occasions.

Bell Ringers

A thriving group of bell ringers practice weekly and all eight bells are rung on Sundays. Crosthwaite is a member of the Bell Ringers Guild and regularly hosts visiting ringers from other churches in the UK. The ringers warmly welcome and provide training for new members.

Home Groups

There are five active Home Groups enjoying fellowship and Bible study. All groups come together at our joint Lent course at which they lead worship. We share this time with members of other local church groups.

Flower Arrangers

Our flower arrangers are committed to showing how the church is cherished and welcoming by providing flowers for special occasions in the church calendar year. These arrangements are always a joyous part of worship.

Mothers Union

The Keswick Mothers Union is a joint group of members from both Crosthwaite and Keswick St John churches. They meet monthly for worship and fellowship and have a full programme of speakers.

Friday Morning Prayer Group

A group of church members meets weekly in the Parish Room to pray especially for those known to us who are unwell or in need. This group contributes to the prayer list for the Sunday notice sheet. They enjoy fellowship and coffee afterwards.

Coffee makers

We have a group who serve delicious Fair-Trade coffee, other drinks and biscuits at the back of church every Sunday after worship.

Keswick Christian Men

Keswick Christian Men is a group of men from local churches who hold regular monthly meetings on Saturday mornings for breakfast, fellowship and usually an invited speaker. Seminars are also held at which matters of faith are discussed in more depth.

Ladies Prayer Breakfast

Ladies from any denomination or none meet at 08.30am on the last Saturday of the month for coffee and croissants. We follow this with a short introduction to a topical prayer theme by one of our number, sometimes with songs accompanied by a guitar. All ladies are very welcome.

Foodbank

Crosthwaite is pleased to contribute to the Foodbank. All contributions may be left in church at any time during the week. A list of requirements is regularly published.

Parish Magazine

A bi-monthly magazine is produced which contains all details of church services and church life. It is available in church and can be delivered.

CROSTHWAITE PARISH

The old market town of Keswick, on the shores of Derwentwater surrounded by stunning Lakeland fells, is the cultural and social centre for the area. A hugely popular tourist destination, Keswick is the "Jewel in the crown" of the North Lakes. It was recently designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site with a very wide range of activities and festivals throughout a normal year.

The Parish of Crosthwaite is an ancient one and originally covered the whole area from Dunmail Raise in the south to the northern end of Bassenthwaite. It is roughly one third of the area and population of Keswick and extends over most of Skiddaw and the western shores of Derwentwater. [CLICK HERE FOR A PARISH BOUNDARY MAP](#) Portinscale, Thrushwood, Applethwaite and Millbeck (where our Underskiddaw Church Room can be found) are within the Parish as is the recently built Calvert Way affordable housing development.

Underskiddaw Church Room

This lovely small church was built as a Sunday School in 1829 by Daniel Dover, the owner of Millbeck woollen mill. It has a regular congregation and is very much part of Crosthwaite Church and the local community. The views over Keswick and the surrounding fells are magnificent and the Room acts as a Wayside Chapel during the summer months when it is frequently open for visitors to spend some quiet moments within its peaceful walls.

CTiK (Churches Together in Keswick) is a group of ten local churches who support Christian and ecumenical projects in the town as well as providing a great deal of support at difficult times - after the 2015 floods and during the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic for example.

Our **Parish Room**, adjacent to the Coop in the centre of Keswick, is often used for town meetings, charity fundraising events and community activities as well as church celebrations such as our Maundy Thursday meal. The Parish Room also houses our church office and is an important place of outreach into the community.

The **Sunday School** Room is in the front grounds of Crosthwaite Church and was built in 2000 as our Millenium Project. The room is used for small meetings and is also where the church toilets are situated.

HOW TO FIND/CONTACT US

Crosthwaite Church
Church Lane
Keswick, Cumbria
CA12 5QG

Crosthwaite Parish Room
Main Street
Keswick, Cumbria
CA12 5NN

Tel: (part-time office) 017687 71187

Email: admin@crosthwaitekeswick.org.uk

or: vicar@crosthwaitechurckeswick.co.uk

Vicar: Revd. Andy Murphie 017687 72509

Churchwardens: Mrs Linda Tee, 017687 72285

Mrs Harriet Spence 017687 72339

Ms Valerie Stewart 07974 955 339

DIRECTIONS TO CROSTHWAITE CHURCH

Coming from either the North or the South exit the M6 at J40 (Penrith and the Western Lakes). Follow the signs for Keswick on the A66.

At the first roundabout continue straight. Do not take the first Keswick turn off but stay on the A66 (Keswick Bypass).

At the next roundabout take the 2nd exit (A66) continuing towards Portinscale and Cockermouth. After about 1.5 miles turn left back towards Keswick town centre on the A5271.

Again after about 1 mile just after the Keswick sign take the first left (Vicarage Hill) and then turn immediately left again (Church Lane). The church can be seen at the end of the lane. [CLICK HERE TO GO TO GOOGLE MAPS](#)

Coming from the **South Lakes area** (Kendal, Windermere, Ambleside) follow the A591 to Keswick and through Keswick town centre towards the A66 but turning right into Vicarage Hill and immediately left into Church Lane as above.

What Three Words: ///nuns.rinse.introduce